



Technical Compendium: Description of Agricultural Trade Policies in Peru, Tanzania and Thailand



The Bioenergy and Food Security Project
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



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ABSTRACT

This document compiles together three technical reviews on Agriculture Trade policies in Peru, Tanzania and Thailand, the three countries that the Bioenergy and Food Security (BEFS) project is currently working in. The technical compendium provides technical details of agriculture trade policies for specific selected crops in the three BEFS countries and can be a useful source when seeking information relating to technical details on agriculture trade policies.

Technical Compendium:

Description of Agricultural Trade Policies in Peru, Tanzania and Thailand
for the Bioenergy and Food Security Project

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Agricultural trade policies, Tanzania, Peru, Thailand, HS Codes

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INTRODUCTION

This document compiles together three technical documents on the Agriculture Trade policies in Peru, Tanzania and Thailand, the three countries that the Bioenergy and Food Security (BEFS) project is currently working in. The technical documents are to provide technical details of agriculture trade policies in the context of these three countries and can be a useful source when seeking information relating to technical details on agriculture trade policies.

Bioenergy developments are high on many countries' agendas today in an effort to improve energy access, energy security and in the context of the world's strive towards lowering global green house gas emissions. With time, though, serious concerns on the environmental and social feasibility and sustainability of bioenergy have arisen, especially when discussing first generation bioenergy as is the case here. In this context, BEFS is working on the food security implications of bioenergy developments.

The primary objective of FAO's three-year Bioenergy and Food Security (BEFS) project is to mainstream food security concerns into national assessments of bioenergy. During the initial term of the project, BEFS developed an Analytical Framework (AF) for the analysis of the food security and bioenergy nexus. In the current phase, BEFS is implementing the AF in the field, building on real country data and expertise.

The outcome of these activities will provide the basis to support policy-makers in making informed decisions. Project activities are to be accomplished through targeted analysis and field activities and are to support rural development in participating countries.

The BEFS Analytical Framework (AF) provides a basis for an examination of the costs and benefits that arise from bioenergy development. The BEFS framework is comprised of four 'building blocks' with a number of subcomponents. Each of these building blocks comprises analytical tools and methods that have been developed by FAO and other organizations. The four main building blocks are the Agriculture Market Outlook, the Natural Resources component, the Technoeconomic and Environment Analysis component and the Socioeconomic analysis component.

In order to support the technical work being carried out within the BEFS analytical components, BEFS commissioned a technical report on Agriculture Trade Policies in

each of the three BEFS countries. Based on a specific commodity list, each country report provides a list of trade policies for the relevant commodities. Trade policies considered are to be all encompassing of tariffs, non-tariff barriers (for example licensing requirements, quotas, and minimum access volumes; however, all non-tariff barriers that could apply), other import taxes and surcharges, and any other trade policies that affect the import of agricultural commodities in processed or unprocessed form. If in place in the country, the report also includes information on trade policies for all biofuels, e.g. bioethanol and biodiesel.

Furthermore, since regulations often differ on the import and export side, the documents were required to describe all policies on both sides, including variations based on the trading partner if applicable. Reasons for this type of variation may be due, for example, to the country's participation in regional or bilateral free trade areas.

Whenever possible, the trade policies are described with reference to the Harmonized System (HS) classification, or whatever classification is in use in the country.

If possible the reports will make reference to any studies that have been undertaken specifically on agriculture trade and its effects on poverty and food security within the country.

The report for Peru **Survey of Agricultural Trade Policies – Peru** was carried out by Jorge Chinen Higa. The list of crops covered included rice, oatmeal, sugar, barley, beans, corn, sunflower, palm oil, soybean, wheat and cotton.

In the case of Tanzania the report **Survey of Trade Policies on Selected Commodities in Tanzania** was carried out by the Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) and covers maize, sorghum, cassava, beans, sweet potatoes, rice, cotton, coconuts, plantains, millet, groundnuts, coffee, wheat, sugar and oil palm.

The report **Survey of Agricultural Trade Policies – Thailand** was carried out by Dr. Ruangrai Tokrisna, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Faculty of Economics, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand. The list of crops covered included rice, sugar, maize, cassava, coconut, oil palm, beans, wheat and soybean.

CONTENTS

1	SURVEY 1: AGRICULTURAL TRADE POLICIES - PERU
2	ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS
3	1. LIST OF TRADE POLICIES ON SELECTED COMMODITIES
3	1.1 RICE
4	1.2 OATMEAL
4	1.3 SUGAR
5	1.4 BARLEY
6	1.5 BEANS
6	1.6 CORN (MAIZE)
7	1.7 SUNFLOWER
8	1.8 PALM OIL
9	1.9 SOYBEAN
10	1.10 WHEAT
11	1.11 COTTON
12	ANNEX 1
12	Table 1. Peru: national tariffs and preferential rates
14	Table 2. Peru: non-tariff measures for selected agricultural products
16	Table 3. Peru: world imports for selected agricultural products
19	ANNEX 2
	LIST OF STUDIES ON EFFECTS OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE POLICIES ON POVERTY AND FOOD SECURITY IN THE CONTEXT OF PERU

21	SURVEY 2: AGRICULTURAL TRADE POLICIES - TANZANIA
23	1. INTRODUCTION
23	1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY
23	1.2 THE STUDY CONTEXT
24	1.3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY
25	2. POLICY FRAMEWORK IN TANZANIA
25	2.1 AGRICULTURAL POLICY
25	2.2 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING POLICY
26	2.3 TRADE POLICY
27	3. MARKETING AND TRADE POLICY OF AGRICULTURAL CROPS
27	3.1 MILLET AND SORGHUM
27	3.2 WHEAT
28	3.3 MAIZE
29	3.4 COFFEE
30	3.5 CASHEW - NUTS
31	3.6 SUGAR
32	3.7 SESAME
33	3.8 CASSAVA
34	3.9 COTTON
35	3.10 RICE
36	3.11 NON-TARIFF BARRIERS FOR OTHER COMMODITIES

38	ANNEX 1
38	Table 1. Harmonized System Code for Wheat in Tanzania
38	Table 2. Harmonized System Code for Maize in Tanzania
39	Table 3. Harmonized System Code for Coffee in Tanzania
40	Table 4. Harmonized System Code for Sugar in Tanzania
40	Table 5. Cassava exports 1979-2003 in 1000 tonnes
40	Table 6. Composition of Taxes on Cotton, 1997/98 and 1998/99
41	Table 7. Harmonized system code for Rice in Tanzania

42	REFERENCES
----	-------------------

45	SURVEY 3: AGRICULTURAL TRADE POLICIES - THAILAND
----	-------------------------------------------------------------

47	1. LIST OF TRADE POLICIES ON SELECTED COMMODITIES
----	----------------------------------------------------------

47	1.1 RICE
----	-----------------

47	1.2 SUGAR
----	------------------

48	1.3 MAIZE
----	------------------

49	1.4 CASSAVA
----	--------------------

50	1.5 COCONUT
----	--------------------

50	1.6 OIL PALM
----	---------------------

51	1.7 BEANS
----	------------------

51	1.8 WHEAT
----	------------------

52	1.9 SOYBEAN
----	--------------------

54	ANNEX 1
----	----------------

54	Table 1. Tariff rates on selected agricultural commodities
----	------------------------------------------------------------

56	Table 2. Non-tariff measures on selected agricultural commodities
----	-------------------------------------------------------------------

58	ANNEX 2
----	----------------

58	LIST OF STUDIES ON EFFECTS OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE POLICIES ON POVERTY AND FOOD SECURITY IN THE CONTEXT OF THAILAND
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